

To All Benefactors and Good People of God – [Bloodvein First Nations](#)

We just had ten days with young men who belong to Opus Dei: seven from Vancouver, two Francophones from Saskatchewan, one Polish from Guelph, five from Toronto and two recent immigrants from Spain. This was the best group, directed by Father Chris and Geoff. Opus Dei means 'the work of God'; one could see the work of God daily. Members live by the founder's teachings: pray, work, do some apostolate.



Bloodvein was a messy place, lumber everywhere. The old rectory was not yet all demolished. Now, it's all ready to add soil inside the foundation and plant a garden next year.

Shannon Walters kept us all going. She cooked and baked delicious meals for 19 of us plus eight local youth who latched on to the visiting group from morning till night.

The boys never complained and they made frequent stops to pay homage to the Blessed Sacrament. It poured rain in Berens River, Little Grand Rapids, Riverton. South of us, five inches fell in a short time. Bloodvein remained dry. I see the power of prayer. Praise God!!!

I'm very impressed how Opus Dei runs these camps. Father Chris leads a half hour meditation – very wise and practical, about their future, how to make the best choices and also celebrated holy mass. Two other young men give 15 minutes reflections just before lunch. One, on the value of the technologies and also its dangers, how to be aware, another on how precious time is.

The youth all got along fine, followed directions and helped with the dishes. After supper these young men would take one young native fellow and teach maths, spelling, prayers. Some shared their problems – many did not want to go home. They wanted to stay, after playing football, for the rosary and litany to Mary – some would take these youths by the shoulders and teach them the rosary. These kids were knocking at the door at 6 am, couldn't get enough of the kindness and joy and love. Some of these young locals had teary eyes when they left on the 9th day.

Yes, these are little glimpses of hope, which tells me that my youths also have a desire, an attraction to goodness, to Christianity, to God. Jesus's love in meant for all nations. But now, my dear young people, often victims to the worldly temptations of drugs, alcohol, entertainment, violence on TV, sex and false Gods. It's not easy to see innocence fall by the wayside, very often ending up in jail.

Do we ever need prayers and good models and purification! Only when God's justice strikes and takes away our toys will there be a comeback to the God-given values of faith, prayer, work. Holy Spirit, come and renew us and renew the face of the earth and your will recreated and lived out in our lives, our hearts and our land.

Photo: Bloodvein.jpg

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Top row, left to right:

José, Dylan, Michael, Michael, Andrés, John Paul, John Paul, Santi, Charles, Simon, Matthew, Nicolaas, Abraham

Bottom row, left to right:

Julian, François, Max, Change, Karl, Geoff